

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
UTILITY DIVISION  
AGENDA NO. 00-11-20**

Date Published: November 16, 2000  
For Work Week Commencing: November 20, 2000  
Business Meeting: November 20, 2000, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

**Work Sessions** All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. MPC SALE – Placeholder (11/21/00)
2. RTO-West filing with FERC – Discuss joining with DEQ to send comments on the RTO-West proposal (11/20/00)
3. D2000.2.21 – Qwest Communications – Qwest application to Introduce Competitive Response on a Permanent, Statewide Basis – Informational pre-hearing meeting to discuss the docket and the issue of whether Marty Essen, on behalf of his company, may participate in the case without being granted official intervenor status (11/20/00)
4. Joining in amicus brief – To Commission permission to join in a Missouri amicus brief in support of a Wisconsin request for review by US Supreme Court of a Seventh Circuit decision on Wisconsin sovereign immunity re: federal district court review of Wisconsin decisions on interconnection agreements (11/20/00)

5. D2000.7.98 – MPC – Electric Bypass Service Contracts – Discuss issuing Notice of Opportunity for Hearing (11/21/00)
6. D2000.6.89 – Qwest – Cost Docket – Continued discussion of party assisted summary of issues (11/21/00)
7. D2000.8.126 – 127, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139 – Qwest and each identified above; These are all interconnection agreements that need approval by 11/27 (11/21/00)
8. D2000.5.70 – Qwest – Multistate 271 Collaborative (and related collaboratives) Approve modified procedural schedule and order, act on late intervention request, general discussion of status of collaboratives as the Commission wants (11/21/00)
9. FCC CC Docket No. 96-45 – Western Wireless – Western Wireless petition to FCC for ETC status on Crow Reservation – Further update on FCC proceeding, direction (11/21/00)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

**Action Items** All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. RED BUTTE PIPE LINE COMPANY, D2000.11.189 (Denise)

On November 13, 2000, Red Line Pipe Line Company filed an application for approval of transfer of assets to Clear Fork Pipeline Company and requested a protective order. Recommend approval of protective order.

2. Citizens Communications Docket No. N2000.10.181 (Scott)

On October 18, 2000, Citizens filed Advice Letter No. MT-00-08 tariff pages introducing Citizens Select plan for residential Customers. Select plan offers residential customers a plan containing selections for services/products and a flat rate individual access line for a single monthly rate. Also in this filing is an administrative cleanup reclassifying Rotary Service from General to Local service in the Tariff.

3. Winter Termination Policy (no docket) (Kate)

The PSC's winter termination rules require regulated utilities to obtain PSC approval before shutting off electric or natural gas service to a nonpaying residential customer from November 1 through April 1. Commission policy has been to delegate authority on an annual basis to the PSC compliance staff to approve or disapprove utility requests for winter shutoffs. Staff seeks PSC action on delegation of authority for this winter's shutoff requests.

4. Montana Marginal Energy Docket N2000.9.146 (Will)

In September, 2000 Montana Marginal Energy Submitted an application for a license to supply electricity to retail customers with loads greater than 300 kW. Montana Marginal Energy's application satisfies the Commission's licensing requirements for this category of retail service.

**Notice Items** All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. CENTRAL MT COMMUNICATIONS, INC Docket N2000.10.178(Leroy)

On October 27, 2000, Central Montana Communications, Inc, filed for modifications to its tariff pages, Section 9, Page 47 eliminating the four month per calendar year limitation on vacation rates.

2. RONAN TELEPHONE COMPANY Docket N2000.10.179 (Leroy)

On October 27, 2000, Ronan Telephone Company filed an application for approval of the following detariffed new services: "Custom Calling Services - Automatic Wake-Up Service, Do Not Disturb Service, Personal Ringing, Remote Call Forward Access, and Warm Line.

3. RONAN TELEPHONE COMPANY Docket N2000.10.180 (Leroy)

On October 27, 2000, Ronan Telephone Company filed proposed new tariff pages, Schedule A-2 Sheets 1 through 4 replacing in part existing Sheet 1. The purpose of the changes is to add general terms and conditions for the offering of Custom Calling Services as well as add descriptions of the services, including both the currently tariffed services and the new proposed detariffed services.

**Information Items** All items identified below are for information only.

1. .OnlineChoice.com, Inc. Docket N2000.11.184 (Will)

On November 1 OnlineChoice.com, Inc. filed an application for a license to be an electricity supply broker for residential, small business and commercial customers in Montana.

2. Advanced Communications Technology N2000.11.186 (Jay)

ACT is a subsidiary of Range Telephone Cooperative and requests expedited authorization to change default intraLATA toll carrier because Qwest Communications no longer wants to provide intraLATA toll service in the 12 exchanges served by Range. ACT and Qwest agree that ACT will simultaneously begin providing intraLATA toll service to the end users in the exchanges currently receiving intraLATA toll from Qwest. ACT requests that Qwest customers be assigned from Qwest to ACT and the current Qwest rates be adopted by ACT. Qwest will cease providing intraLATA toll service on December 16, 2000. ACT will notify current Qwest toll customers that their service will be assigned from Qwest to ACT beginning December 16. The bill stuffer will be mailed on December 1. Customers will have 90 days after the receipt of the notice to switch away from ACT free of charge. ACT requests the Commission issue a declaratory ruling or, alternatively, waive any applicable slamming rules (ARM 38.5.3801 et seq.).

**Tentative Action Items for Agenda 00-11-27**

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

- D2000.11.185 – Cut Bank Gas Co – Filing for change of rate schedule
- N2000.11.186 – Range Telephone Co-op – Advanced Communications Tech  
application to change default intraLATA toll carrier
- D2000.11.187 – Red Butte Pipe Line – Application of approval for transfer of  
certain assets in Montana
- D2000.11.188 – MITS – Filing for interconnection agreement between Central  
Montana Communications and WWC Holding Co
- D2000.11.189 – MITS – Filing for interconnection agreement between Triangle  
Telephone and WWC Holding Co